



Ronald Smith

Chief, System Support Division

Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Systems

Mr. Ron Smith has served with the Federal Government since he joined the US Army in February 1962. He retired from the Army in June 1982 as maintenance Chief Warrant Officer 3 (CWO3) and subsequently returned to Government Civilian service in March 1983.

An experienced and well rounded Logistician, Mr. Smith has served as the Publications Lead for the ROLAND Weapon System, became the Logistics Lead for the Tri-Service Stand-off Attack Missile System (TSSAM), and moved on to become the Total Ownership Cost Reduction Lead for the Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) Project Office.

Since 1999, Mr. Smith has been the Chief, System Support Division for the Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Systems (UAVS) Project Office. In this capacity, he has led his logistics team in the support of the RQ-5B Hunter UAV that has seen service in both Bosnia and Operation Iraqi Freedom, and, most significantly, managed the Logistic Division through the development, test, and fielding of the RQ-7A Shadow UAV. The Shadow 200 is the first Army UAV to receive a full rate production decision and, since that milestone in September 2002, the Shadow has been fielded to 15 Army Active, Reserve, and National Guard units. The Shadow 200 is currently deployed with units serving in Iraq where the system is supported using a Performance Based Logistics product support strategy. An additional 22 systems or more will be fielded by the end of FY 07.

In addition to the Shadow and Hunter UAV systems, Mr. Smith provides the logistics leadership that supports UAVS being initially equipped to the field or in the acquisition pipeline to include the Raven Small UAV, the Extended Range Multi Purpose UAV, the I-GNAT, the ALERT UAV, and UAV systems planned for Future Combat Systems (FCS) including the FIRESOULT UAV.

Mr. Smith received his Logistic Level III in 1995 and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Management of Technology.